

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-8 are pending, in which claims 1-4 are currently amended, and claims 5-8 are newly presented. No new matter is introduced.

The Office Action mailed December 14, 2005 objected to the title and rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Shishido et al.* (JP 2002-093115).

In response to the objection to the title, Applicants have amended the title accordingly.

Applicants have amended the claims to conform with US patent practice.

Regarding the § 102(b) rejection, however, Applicants respectfully traverse on the merits because in Applicants' view, the present invention patentably defines over the applied art, as next discussed.

Independent claims 1 and 4 recite, "a base chassis for holding a motor is **mounted on a case** of said optical disk device **through a first elastic body**, and **a second elastic body for supporting a counterweight** constituting said dynamic vibration absorber **on said base chassis**, wherein said second elastic body is **integrally formed** with said first elastic body into a single body."

The Office Action, on pages 2-3, applies *Shishido et al.* to satisfy the above features, citing Figures 1 and 3. Because the Japanese reference available to the Examiner only provides an English Abstract, Applicants have provided herewith a machine translation of the reference as obtained from the Japanese Patent Office.

Shishido et al. discloses that the composition of a single elastic body 13 is comprised of a hole portion 13B, a crevice portion 13F, two lobe portions 13C and 13D, and an adhesion section 13E. (Figure 3; paragraph [0018]). Furthermore, within Figure 3 and paragraphs [0018]-[0019], the reference only describes a single elastic body, constituting a single entity, that merely couples weight 12 of the dynamic vibration absorber 11 to chassis 14. At no point does *Shishido et al.*

even suggest the existence of first and second elastic bodies, much less a “wherein said second elastic body is **integrally formed** with said first elastic body into a single body.”

Further, Applicants’ study of the reference only reveals a driving device for an information recording medium D containing a motor 40 and an optical unit 50 in which the operability of the device is improved when a dynamic vibration absorber 11, having weight 12, is mounted on a chassis 14 of the device’s traverse mechanism 10a through four individual elastic bodies 13. As such, dynamic vibration absorber 11 is able to absorb the vibration caused by the components of traverse mechanism 10a thereby improving the positioning accuracy of the device.

Moreover, a separate mounting/positing technique **to an assembly jig 85, not a case**, is revealed as **acting through pins 41, not integrally formed elastic bodies**, extruding from the jig through positioning holes 14a and 12a in chassis 14 and weight 12, respectively (Figure 5; paragraph [0021]). Further, coupling to assembly jig 85 can be achieved through holes 72 on chassis 14 (Figure 1; paragraph [0014]). Such disclosure falls short of the claim feature of “a base chassis for holding a motor is **mounted on a case** of said optical disk device **through a first elastic body**” integrally formed with a second elastic body.

As anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that each and every element of the claim be disclosed in a prior art reference, based on the foregoing, it is clear that *Shishido et al.* fails to anticipate independent claims 1 and 4. Accordingly, these independent claims, along with claims 2 and 3 depending correspondingly therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

Turning now to newly added claims 5-8, claim 5 recites “wherein said first elastic body and said second elastic body comprises either the same or different thermosetting elastic rubber or thermoplastic elastomer materials,” and depends from independent claim 1. New independent claim 6 is drawn to an apparatus for absorbing dynamic vibration for a disk device, and recites “a

first elastic body disposed between a case of the disk device and a base chassis; and a second elastic body for supporting a counterweight, wherein the second elastic body is integrally formed with the first elastic body into a single body.” Dependent claims 7 and 8 (which depend from new independent claim 6) recites, respectively, “wherein an elastic coefficient of the first elastic body is lower than an elastic coefficient of the second elastic body” and “The disk device comprising a plurality of the apparatuses according to claim 6.” It is believed that these claims are allowable for the reasons explained above.

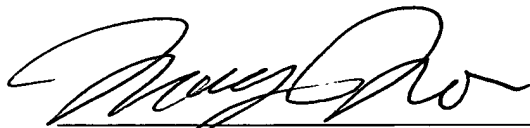
Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the objections and rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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